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Moose ROMP

Mooseheads goalie Zachary Fucale makes a third-period save despite the best efforts of Acadie-Bathurst forward Zach O'Brien during Halifax's 7-0 win over the Titan on Wednesday night at the Metro Centre. Fucale turned aside 35 shots to earn his second career QMJHL shutout. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Union plays waiting game

Officials waiting to have a look at transit offer from HRM

Memorial makeover

Money coming for new naval memorial along the waterfront

March break mayhem

What would an Air Canada strike mean for your vacation plans? PAGE 8

The height of the argument

Planning. Downtown Halifax Business Commission says its stance on Skye project isn't anti-development but pro-HRMbyDesign

ALEX BOUTILIER
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The Downtown Halifax Business Commission says granting the Skye Halifax project an exception to municipal planning documents will lead to "decades of development paralysis in the downtown core."

In a post on its website Wednesday, the commission said council shouldn't approve planning amendments to allow for the 48-storey building proposed for 1591 Granville St.

"We are saying that we must validate the massive amount of public consultation that went into the downtown plan," reads the post. "We are saying that,

Quotable

"It's the implications of (Skye) going forward that's of more concern."

Paul MacKinnon, president of the Downtown Halifax Business Commission
Speaking about why his organization is against 48-storey building

yes, some flexibility must be part of the plan, but we cannot go down the road of questioning our plan at the earliest available opportunity because we fear being labelled 'anti-development'"

On Feb. 21, Halifax regional council rejected a staff recommendation to kill the Skye project.

The proposed project is 150 metres tall. The downtown plan limits buildings on the property to 66 metres.

Staff were concerned the changes would essentially undermine the authority and intention of municipal planning documents that were the result of HRMbyDesign.

According to Andy Fillmore, HRM's manager of urban design, nine pro-

jects have or will soon be approved since the new downtown plan was implemented two years ago. He said that's more than the previous 20 years.

Staff credited the clarity of HRMbyDesign, in part, for the spike in development.

But Steve Streatch, one of the councillors who voted to send Skye to public consultations, said he won't be bound by municipal planning documents.

"With all respect to the people that worked on HRMbyDesign, it's a document. But documents have come and gone," Streatch said.

"Documents are guides only. And members of council are entitled and, indeed, should be encouraged to vote their conscience."

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NEWS

Mobile news

Chimpanzees are often cited as humans' closest living relatives, but a new DNA study suggests we may have more in common with gorillas. Scan the code for the story.



Online video

Protest violence

Four people were injured during student protests as Quebec's battle over tuition-fee hikes took a nasty turn Wednesday. Watch at [metronews.ca/video](#)



Transit union waiting on new offer from HRM

Still on strike.

Halifax regional council doesn't have to approve package before it goes to negotiations

Johnny off the job**36**

Today is Day 36 of the transit strike. The last time the two sides met at the negotiating table was on Feb. 8, with talks breaking down after almost 24 hours.

it has been a major sticking point in negotiations.

"There's a mandate that's provided and the total package amount will remain the same, although we've been instructed to be creative within that mandate," MacKinlay said.

Ken Wilson, president of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 508, said he wants to see the offer by email before deciding whether to go back to the bargaining table.

He added that there is some flexibility on the rostering issue.

"There's always some movement and I'm not going to close the door to going back into negotiations. I don't think that's fair to the members or the public," he said.

"Are we going back into true negotiations, or are we going back to be dictated to again? That's the question."



Amalgamated Transit Union members gather outside city hall on Tuesday afternoon, but they could soon be back at the bargaining table if the union approves a new offer. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

No private bus service rolling into town



Renegades on wheels? The so-called Bus Strike Relief group is most likely a hoax, a review at the facts would suggest. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

Concession demands**Paper workers poised to strike**

About 100 unionized workers at a Halifax packaging company could walk off the job on Friday.

Ninety per cent of employees at Maritime Paper Products Ltd. who cast ballots on Tuesday voted to strike. They are members

of Local 1520 of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union, and have been in a legal strike position since Feb. 18.

The union says the workers will strike unless the employer backs down on concession demands surrounding pensions, benefits and scheduling.

The company makes corrugated cartons and other custom packaging.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

There will be no bus service, renegade or otherwise, in the Halifax Regional Municipality on Thursday.

Several Halifax media outlets reported Wednesday that an unnamed group was planning to run a private bus service from Lower Sackville to downtown Halifax by week's end.

The reports cited an ad on Kijiji, as well as a website called Bus Strike Relief. Neither site offered any contact information.

A section of the site titled "Investment Opportunity" featured a forum where people could submit their

contact information for an "investors (sic) package."

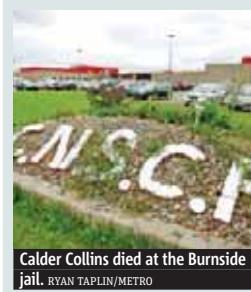
Bus Strike Relief was firing back at suggestions the whole thing was a hoax in a blog update on Wednesday afternoon.

"It has been suggested in the media that this is a hoax. Not so is the strike real, yes (sic)," the group wrote.

"Hoax I don't think so. Our search for more equipment continues."

The site was taken down shortly afterward.

The province's Utility and Review Board must approve any transit service with vehicles that seat more



Calder Collins died at the Burnside jail. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Foul play not suspected**Police ID man who died in jail cell**

An inmate who died in a jail cell was a 25-year-old Prince Edward Island man, Halifax police say.

Investigators say Calder Ross Collins of Mount Stewart was found dead Tuesday morning at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional

than eight. UARB spokesman Paul Allan said no such request had been filed with the board.

The group claimed one of five buses purchased from Quebec was vandalized hours after arriving in Halifax.

Theresa Rath, spokeswoman for Halifax Regional Police, said police had received no reports of bus vandalism.

Police did have some advice for would-be investors, however.

"If you have any questions, or if there's a question mark in your mind, you should listen to that," she said.

ALEX BOUILIER/METRO

Facility in Burnside. Police say the cause of death can't be determined until toxicology tests are complete. They say foul play is not suspected.

Collins was arrested Sunday and charged with smuggling, importing a controlled substance and possession for the purpose of trafficking. He was detained at the Halifax airport after returning from a vacation in Jamaica. **METRO**



HMCS Sackville is seen in the photo taken last summer. The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust is raising money for a permanent enclosure to preserve the Second World War corvette. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

HRM breaks the rules to grant \$50K to naval memorial

HMCS Sackville.

National naval memorial was commissioned in 1941

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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HRM is looking to chip in \$50,000 to get a new naval memorial underway on the Halifax waterfront.

The grants committee approved the money in principle this week, but it will need approval by Halifax regional council to make it official. It's double the maximum amount usually handed out by the committee, but rules have been broken before.

The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust has plans to build a permanent enclosure around the HMCS Sackville, a navy memorial and an in-

Traffic
50,000

An estimated 50,000 people go through the HMCS Sackville every season.

terpretive centre behind the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. They're currently raising money for the first stage of the project: hiring a project manager and a competition for architects to come up with a design.

"With the influence they have at council, I'd be happy to get away with only \$50,000," said Coun. Russell Walker. He called the naval trust a lobby group that has a lot of pull with "particular members" of council.

Committee members had concerns about the trust's ability to raise enough money, not only for the design competition, but for the overall project itself.

"I don't want to waste our money, taxpayer money," David Woo, a citizen member of the committee, said during the meeting Monday.

According to an HRM staff report, the province has already committed \$150,000, and ACOA has contributed \$60,000. The trust is putting up \$100,000 and private-sector donations equal \$35,000.

In an interview, Doug Thomas, executive director of the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, said they have enough money to get it going. As for the \$50 million, they plan to fund raise some of it and get the federal government to come up with the rest.

"It's the naval equivalent of the memorial of Vimy Ridge in France," he said, adding once completed, it would be an iconic landmark for Halifax.

"This is a major project for the Halifax Waterfront and it will bring in a lot of tourism," he said.

Oldie but goodie. Memorial would be seen as an 'iconic building': Naval trust

At 70 years old, the HMCS Sackville is not a young ship.

During the off-season, she's parked and sheltered at the navy dockyard where repairs are made. But battling the elements is tough on the wartime corvette.

A permanent enclosure would protect the Sackville year-round for decades to

come, said Doug Thomas, the executive director of the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust.

An accompanying naval memorial will pay tribute to sailors lost in conflicts at sea and during peacetime.

The interpretive centre, which may be added on to the Maritime Museum of the

Atlantic, will tell the 100-plus year history of the Canadian navy.

"This memorial and interpretive centre we see as being an iconic building, and, in years to come, people will recognize that as being something from Halifax," Thomas said.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

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FIGHT COLD AND FLU SEASON

HAND HYGIENE KEY

How many times did you wash your hands today?

If it's fewer than five times, your risk for catching a cold or flu virus goes up, according to Dr. Bonnie Henry, medical director, Communicable Disease Prevention Service at the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.

With cold and flu season in Canada gearing up and not peaking until early 2012, it's important to do everything you

can to avoid the viruses that cause colds and flu.

"We know that people who wash or clean their hands five times a day are less likely to get colds and flus," says Henry.

Most respiratory viruses spread by coughing, but they can also spread indirectly when people cough into their hands and then touch objects. A virus can survive on commonly touched surfaces such as doorknobs, countertops, faucets and toys — popular places young children put their little hands on

every day. Kids aren't always as careful with their hygiene as adults — they drop toys, play on the floor, and put their hands in their mouths. Using a product like Mr. Clean with Febreze freshness Disinfectant Liquid can help. It is not only formulated to kill the flu virus (influenza A2) when used as directed, but it also leaves a fresh, pleasant scent behind.

"Viruses can stay alive for 24 to 48 hours," says Donna Wiens, president of the Community and Hospital Infection Control Association (CHICA) and an

RN and infection control specialist. "So the next person that comes along and turns the doorknob or uses the telephone, is at risk."

"We're big promoters of hand hygiene, cough etiquette (such as covering your mouth when you cough), influenza immunization, and staying home if you're sick. And none of those stand on their own — they all go together."

The other important message: it's everyone's responsibility to do everything possible to avoid spreading germs.

— Ylva Van Buuren

GET WELL SOON



The average child will get between eight and 12 cold or flu viruses a year, while adults typically get six to eight. The bad news? There's no cure.

"You can't take antibiotics for a virus," says Dr. Jonathan Kerr, a spokesperson for The College of Family Physicians of Canada. "But your body will heal itself in five to 14 days, depending on how severe the virus is."

To get well soon, Kerr recommends following these doctor's orders:

GET PLENTY OF REST If you sleep for a day or two when you first get sick, the world won't stop revolving — and it could help you feel better faster. "I ask my patients how well they're really functioning when they feel miserable," says Kerr. "The body will heal itself if you do the right things, but you have to be patient. It could take a week or two before you feel completely well again."

REPLACE LOST FLUIDS If you're vomiting and sweating or you have diarrhea, drink lots of water or other non-caff-

feinated beverages such as juice and herbal tea. Homemade chicken soup is great too. "If someone who cares about you made it, there's a psychological component that will make you feel better," says Kerr. "Plus it's mostly fluid, and the protein in the chicken will give you some strength." Since ginger has anti-nausea properties, sipping cold or warm flat ginger ale may ease stomach upset.

SEEK OVER-THE-COUNTER RELIEF A pharmacist can help you choose a product to ease a cough, a runny or stuffy nose or muscle aches. Want to try a supplement? Go ahead — some small studies have shown that zinc and echinacea may lessen a virus' duration by half a day if you take them when symptoms start. "If you take the proper dosage, it won't hurt and it might help," says Kerr.

— Jane Doucet



IS IT A COLD OR FLU?

Cold symptoms include sneezing, runny nose and congestion as well as headache, cough and sore throat. Fever is the hallmark difference, says Wiens. If you have the flu, you may have fever as well as severe body aches and muscle aches.

— Ylva Van Buuren

FLU WATCH

About 10 to 25 per cent of Canadians get the flu each season, while the average Canadian deals with three to four colds every year.

Immunization is the best protection against the flu, and the best time to be immunized in Canada is right now, says Dr. Bonnie Henry, medical director, Communicable Disease Prevention Service, B.C. Centre for Disease Control, Vancouver. Pretty well everyone is encouraged to get a flu shot including pregnant women and children under two. Speak to your doctor for more information.

To keep track of the spread of flu and flu-like illnesses, bookmark Public Health Agency of Canada's Flu Watch phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/. So far, only sporadic influenza activity has been reported. But there has been an increase in detections of cold viruses.



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Schools. Premier defends \$13.4M cut to education as necessary

Premier Darrell Dexter says it's "flat wrong" to say his government is cutting education, despite a 1.3 per cent overall funding cut to school boards this fiscal year.

Dexter defended the planned \$13.4-million education-funding cut before a business audience Wednesday in Halifax, saying it's necessary given the province's continual decline in enrolment.

After his speech to the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce, Dexter said the ratio of funding per student has actually increased under his government, adding that the 1.3 per cent cut is a recognition that the system must adapt to declining enrolment.

"It's disingenuous to try to pretend that demand can decline and decline and decline and you don't do anything about addressing it," Dexter said.

"It's simply the fact that the money that we're putting into delivering education to each student is increasing."

Enrolment across the

Layoffs

- Education plan.** School boards have said this year's cut will mean teacher layoffs at a time they're being asked to expand some programs under a new education plan aimed at strengthening classroom instruction in areas such as mathematics and skilled trades training.
- Funding reduction.** It follows a \$17.6 million reduction in funding last year.

province from Primary to Grade 12 is expected to drop this year by more than 2,200 students, or 1.7 per cent, the government says.

Dexter said there are currently 100 more teachers than needed because of the decline and the government has to ensure resources flow into the classroom.

"There still comes a point where the number of people you have delivering the program has to correspond with the demand that you have," he said. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Survey. Satisfaction with provincial NDP declines slightly, according to poll

Satisfaction with the provincial government led by Premier Darrell Dexter declined slightly, according to new polling data from Halifax's Corporate Research Associates.

But most shifts within the February survey are well within the margin of error.

Of the 806 voting-aged Nova Scotians surveyed, 48 per cent said they are mostly or completely satisfied with the performance of the provincial NDP. That's down from 55 per cent in November of last year.

On the flip side, 42 per cent of respondents said they were either mostly or completely dissatisfied with the government. A further 10 per cent said they didn't know, or had no answer.

If an election were held today, the poll says 44 per cent of decided voters would vote NDP, with the Liberals at 27 per cent and the Tories at 25 per cent. A full 44 per cent, however, said they were undecided, didn't know or do not plan to vote.

Premier Darrell Dexter remains first choice among preference for premiers (29 per cent). Liberal Leader Ste-



Premier Darrell Dexter
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Margin of error

- Poll.** The CRA poll has a margin of error of 3.5 per cent. Respondents were surveyed between Feb. 8 to 26.

phen McNeil and Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie are virtually neck and neck, with 21 and 22 per cent respectively.

The Greens' John Percy and Jonathan Dean of the Atlantic Party combined for four per cent, while 17 per cent said they didn't know or had no answer. **ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO**

Break-and-enters

3 accused males face 111 charges

Police say two 18-year-old men and a male young offender face a total of 111 Criminal Code charges in relation to a string of home break-and-enters.

The Mounties say the trio were arrested Tuesday after officers responded to a report of a break-and-enter at Florence Place Court in Lower Sackville.

They say a subsequent search of a local residence turned up several thousand dollars' worth of stolen property.

Police say the charges are related to at least 15 break-and-enters in the Sackville area over a five-month period.

METRO

Pictou County

Stabbing suspect released on bail

A Trenton man accused in a weekend stabbing in the Pictou County town has been released on bail.

Joseph Abraham MacKinnon, 35, was arrested late Sunday night in relation to a stabbing that occurred

in Trenton around 5:35 a.m., after an adult male was found with serious stab wounds.

He faces charges of aggravated assault, assault with a weapon and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public. **NEW GLASGOW NEWS**

Amherst

Investigation nets nine arrests

Police in Amherst have arrested nine people following a drug-trafficking investigation.

A search warrant was executed Monday at an Amherst residence where a significant quantity of hydromorphone and methamphetamine were seized along with other evidence to support trafficking charges. **AMHERST DAILY**

Evanston

Board votes to close a third school

The Strait Regional School Board has voted to close a third school. The board voted in favour of permanently closing West Richmond Education Centre in Evanston no later than June 30, 2013, during a meeting in the community on Tuesday.

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Program to subsidize hiring of grads

Job placement. Nova Scotia businesses can apply for three-month co-op-student subsidy from the province



JENNIFER
TAPLIN

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A grad program announced Wednesday will help companies get new grads on the cheap.

Percy Paris, economic and rural development and tourism minister, pledged \$400,000 for the next academic year to subsidize 50 job placements.

While the program is open to all businesses — and many have expressed interest — the ocean technology, finance, aerospace and IT sectors are high-growth and could probably use it the most, he said.

"The fact that a number of employers have already expressed a keen interest — I think that means something," Paris said.

For successful applicants, the province will pay half the wages of a co-op student for three months, up to \$7,500.

Saeed El-Darahali, president and CEO of IT firm SimplyCast, said he hires 15

to 20 co-op students a year from Halifax's post secondary institutions. He said they have a 90 per cent employment rate.

"We can (now) hire more people going forward," he said. "For us, I'd like to hire 10 people every semester, instead of five."

They can't hire as many people as they train, but they're building their own supply of workers as the company grows, he said.

There are other provincial programs that provide wage incentives for employers to hire co-op students.

Paris said this program allows more involvement from employers.

Assessing project success

- The \$400,000 is for the first year of the project and it will be assessed for its impact at the end of the year.
- "We'll see how successful we're going to be," said Percy Paris, economic and rural development and tourism minister.



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Manhunt. Mounties launch global search for Tamil ship 'mastermind'

Mounties have launched an international manhunt for the first person charged in connection with a ship that brought hundreds of Tamil migrants to Canada's West Coast a year and a half ago.

Thayakaran Markandu has been charged with organizing illegal entry into Canada, the RCMP said Wednesday.

The charge relates to the MV Sun Sea, which arrived in August 2010 carrying 492 Tamil migrants.

Markandu, who was born in 1972 according to court records, is currently believed to be living abroad, although Mounties haven't confirmed where, said Sgt. Duncan Pound.

An indictment filed in B.C. provincial court accuses Markandu of offences in the Juan de Fuca Strait off the B.C. coast, as well as in Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Thailand.

The indictment, which was sworn Monday and contains unproven allegations,

claims Markandu "did knowingly organize, induce, aid or abet the coming into Canada of one or more persons who are not in the possession of a visa, passport or other document required by the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act."

The Sun Sea arrived with 492 Tamils on board, including men, women and children.

All made refugee claims, pointing to decades of violence wrought by a 26-year civil war in their home country of Sri Lanka.

As of January, three of the Sun Sea passengers had their refugee claims approved, according to the latest figures.

Another 13 migrants had their claims withdrawn, either because of deportation orders or because the claimants withdrew their applications themselves.

Also, five claims were abandoned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

International pursuit

"We believe he's not inside Canada, so we're working with our international partners ... in an effort to bring him to justice."

The RCMP's Sgt. Duncan Pound

Workplace

You're hired. Say thank-you to Facebook

Facebook is already an established screening tool for hiring managers — but new research shows it can also be an indicator for job success.

Researchers say a 10-minute sift through a Facebook profile can predict how a job candidate will perform in the workplace more accurately than a personality assessment test.

Researchers found the Facebook scores were more accurate in predicting success than personality tests in areas like conscientiousness, emotional stability, agreeableness and openness to experience.

What did the "raters" like on Facebook?

People who travel and enjoy new experiences, people with hobbies and creative interests and people with friends and a sense of humour.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Parliament

Tories think again on more powers for electoral chief

The Conservative government has reversed course and now says it will support an NDP motion to give Elections Canada increased audit powers.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper told the House of Commons on Wednesday his government will support new legislation — as proposed by the official Opposition.

A Tory-dominated committee last month turned down a recommendation by the chief electoral officer for new investigative powers. Marc Mayrand wants to be able to compel parties to back up their financial statements with receipts and details.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Strike threat. Our pension concerns are not being addressed, angry union members warn the airline

Air Canada's biggest union is threatening to strike just as the busy March Break travel season gets under way.

Its members are furious over what they consider the airline's refusal to deal with pension issues.

Union vice-president Dave Ritchie said Wednesday the machinists, cargo agents and baggage handlers rejected a tentative deal because Air Canada hasn't addressed the pension concerns — especially after members agreed to millions of dollars in cost cutting to help the airline restructure.

The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers said its 8,600 members will walk off the job if they don't get a new deal by

12:01 a.m. ET on Mar. 12.

Ritchie said if the union were to strike, flights would be grounded because its members provide crucial services such as fixing and deicing planes.

"If we hit the lines, flights will be grounded," he said.

"Unfortunately, the public is going to be inconvenienced and I can understand that but you know what my membership has suffered for 10 years," he added.

Ritchie said the union's negotiating committee

Tories worried

Don't spoil vacations, Raft pleads

Labour Minister Lisa Raitt said the government is taking the labour threat seriously and is concerned a strike would disrupt the travel plans of thousands

Union fury

"In my 40 years of collective bargaining, I have never seen the level of anger that I have seen in the membership at Air Canada."

Dave Ritchie, union vice-president

underestimated the anger of its membership, who rejected a tentative deal by a 66 per

cent margin.

Of particular concern are wages and a sizable pension deficit, which the union says Air Canada has not dealt with, despite the sale of \$2 billion in assets.

The union had already agreed in 2009 to defer payment on its pension plan until 2014, but the company is asking for \$350 million in pension concessions while top executives continue to be paid handsomely, Ritchie declared.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

and have a big negative impact on the economy.

"This is a particularly bad time for thousands of families," Raitt said.

"We encourage both parties to avoid a work stoppage and restore confidence for the travelling public and Canadian job creators that rely on commercial air services."

Duncan Dee, Air Canada executive vice-president and CEO, attempted to downplay the possibility of travel chaos.

"Should a settlement not be reached and the IAMAW commences job action, the airline will endeavour to minimize inconvenience to its customers," Dee said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Billy-club police move in on Montreal protesters

Quebec's battle over university tuition fee hikes takes a nasty turn as students square off against police in Montreal on Wednesday. Clouds of tear gas wafted over downtown. Riot police used billy clubs to slam their way through protesters who were blocking access to a public building. Some responded by tossing snowballs at officers. Four people were injured. ANDRE PICHETTE/LA PRESSE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Air Canada chaos set to ruin March Break?

Race still open despite big Romney lead

Republican primaries.

Obama's approval ratings on the rise as Republicans continue to battle it out for the nomination

Republican presidential front-runner Mitt Romney won in six of 10 Super Tuesday states but managed only the

narrowest victory over rival Rick Santorum in all-important Ohio, an outcome that leaves open the contest for the nomination to challenge President Barack Obama.

Santorum, the former senator, captured three states and Newt Gingrich, the former speaker of the House of Representatives, notched a victory in Georgia, the state he represented in Congress for nearly two decades.

Rallying for Romney

Romney is "the only candidate in this race who's got a plan to turn this economy around."

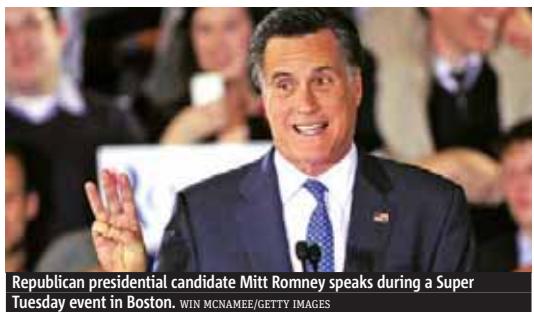
Republican Eric Cantor, majority leader, House of Representatives

The mixed results in the 10 state contests held on Tuesday suggest that Romney, despite padding his lead

in the tally of delegates who will pick the nominee this summer, is still struggling to win over the Republican party's most conservative elements.

In the aftermath of the Tuesday vote, Obama campaign manager Jim Messina, in a conference call with reporters, said Romney was "limping across the finish line" in primary states.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney speaks during a Super Tuesday event in Boston. WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

Murder trial. Mother testifies she met woman now in jail for girl's killing

Victoria Stafford's mother crossed paths before with the woman convicted of the eight-year-old's murder when she bought drugs at her house, though 18-year-old Terri-Lynne McClintic seemed too strung out to even notice, court heard Wednesday.

McClintic, now 21, pleaded guilty two years ago to first-degree murder in Tori's death. Michael Rafferty, her boyfriend at the time, is now on trial for first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping.

He has pleaded not guilty. Tara McDonald testified Wednesday at Rafferty's trial and said she was addicted to OxyContin at the time her daughter was abducted outside her Woodstock, Ont., school on April 8, 2009. She had even taken some that day in the hours before Tori was supposed to arrive home from school, she said.

Terri-Lynne McClintic is set to take the stand at Rafferty's trial starting Tuesday, Superior Court Judge Thomas Heeney told the jury.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Tara McDonald, mother of slain Victoria (Tori) Stafford, walks into court in London, Ontario, on Wednesday. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cyber crime

Terrorists may pursue cyber attacks: FBI director

FBI Director Robert Mueller said Wednesday that terrorists may seek to train their own recruits or hire outsiders with an eye toward pursuing cyber attacks on the United States.

"Terrorists have not used the Internet to launch a full-scale cyber attack, but we cannot underestimate their intent," Mueller told a House subcommittee. He said terrorists have shown interest in developing hacking skills, and that the evolving nature of the problem makes the FBI's counterterrorism mission more difficult.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Holy hackers

Vatican website hit by hackers

Members of the amorphous hacking group Anonymous claimed Wednesday to have taken down the Vatican website to protest everything from Catholic doctrine to the sexual abuse of children.

The website was inaccessible for much of Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Vatican spokesman Rev. Federico Lombardi confirmed the attack but declined to comment on its possible source. He said he didn't know how long it would take the Vatican's technicians to bring the site back up.

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Apple TV

iCloud to ease movie watching

Apple is making it easier for people who buy movies through iTunes to play them on the various devices. Apple said Wednesday that customers can now save some movies on its iCloud remote storage service. That system lets devices such as the iPad and the iPhone retrieve content wirelessly. Before, if you bought a movie on one device to play on another, you needed to connect both to a personal computer with a physical cord. People will be able to watch purchased movies on an improved Apple TV set-top box going on sale next week. That should allay frustration consumers have had with digital movie purchases, which could be bought on iPads and iPhones, but couldn't be stored on the Apple TV device because it has no hard drive.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It may look like an iPad 2 but it's different – really!

New features.

Enhanced graphics, faster processor and upgraded camera

MIKE YAWNEY
ottawa@metronews.ca

Every time Apple hints at releasing a new product, the rumours begin to swirl. Speculation on what will be announced and the latest features are inevitable. Some of the rumours turn out to be true, some of them wrong. In the case of the new iPad, the media nailed it.

The new iPad (not the iPad 3 or iPad HD) looks and feels much like the iPad 2. It's 0.6 millimetres thicker and 51 grams heavier – hardly noticeable. The easiest way to tell the difference is by looking at the screen.

Apple calls it the Retina display, because it's nearly impossible to pick out individual pixels with the naked eye. The new iPad has four times the number of pixels than the iPad 2, with 264 pixels per square inch. This means it has one million more pixels than the high-definition TV in your living room. Text is much clearer and easier to read. Graphics also look smooth and polished.

The enhanced graphics are made possible by Apple's new A5X processor. The chip allows for quad-core graphics, double the performance of the iPad 2. Those who love to play games will see the value in the chip.

One of my biggest disappointments with the iPad 2 was the camera quality. Apple says it has listened to customer feedback and decided to change the cameras. The rear of the new iPad will feature a new five-megapixel iSight camera



Apple CEO Tim Cook introduces the new iPad during an event in San Francisco on Wednesday. The new iPad features a sharper screen and a faster processor.

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

with auto focus, face detection and auto white balance. It will also have the ability to record 1080p HD video at 30 frames per second. The front camera remains VGA-quality, which may

disappoint some.

The last feature is the ability to download and surf the web faster, supporting 4G and LTE. The new iPad will be available March 16, starting at \$519.

Home affordability up despite debt: RBC

Market Moment



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Natural gas: \$2.33 US (-2.80)
Dow Jones: 12,837.33 (+78.18)

Despite ongoing concerns about household debt, home ownership is becoming more affordable in Canada, says new research by the Royal Bank.

RBC's latest report says home affordability improved in the final months of 2011 for the second consecutive quarter, thanks to softening house prices and income gains.

Owning a home in Canada now takes up as much pre-tax income as it did a year ago, even though household indebtedness has continued to rise and is now at a record-high 153

per cent of disposable income. "The improvement in affordability was modest for the most part, but still significant enough to dial back the deterioration that impacted the market in spring last year," said RBC chief economist Craig Wright in a release.

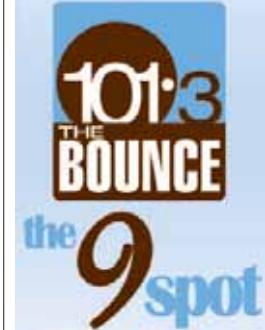
The study shows affordability rates vary widely. Vancouver's rate is down by 4.6 points to 86 per cent. Next highest is Toronto at 52.2 per cent. Other ratings were Ottawa (40.9), Montreal (40.1) Calgary (36.7) and Edmonton (32.8).



A real estate agent puts up a sold sign in front of a house in Toronto on April 20, 2010.

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Top 5: March 7th

- 5 Marianas Trench Fallout
- 4 David Guetta ft Nicki Minaj Turn Me On
- 3 Gym Class Heroes Yourself Back Home
- 2 Katy Perry Part Of Me
- 1 Carly Rae Jepsen Call Me Maybe



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TRAVELLING AMONG THE BLUFFS



HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

Backpackers must never show weakness.

When trekking through foreign lands, as I plan to in September, you must make it clear to fellow adventurers that you

have travelled much farther, experienced far more and appreciated it all on a far deeper level than they could ever know.

Furthermore, you must make it clear that, though your experiences would thrill and delight the average middle-of-the-pack backpacker, to you it was a bit of a bore.

If a fellow traveller saw the village church, you went inside and had a spiritual moment. If he went bungee jumping, you went skydiving. If he climbed Mount Everest, you reached the summit with a really tall Sherpa and then stood on his shoulders.

Of course, we're all bluffing, and couldn't imagine a weekend without beer, let alone a few days without water. But all backpackers do this. It's just the way things are done.

It's been several years since I went backpacking, but these primal truths came rushing back to me this week as a salesman showed me some of the camping gear I'd need.

Immediately, instinctively, I began bluffing. The salesman said, "This is a Hybrid EC tent with burlap tarmac eco-stretch and composite MoldProtect fibre, of course." And I said, "Of course," furrowing my brow in a way that I hoped conveyed world-class knowledge of tent construction, when I was actually thinking, "How come people only say 'of course' when you have no idea what they're talking about?"

If I'd shown my ignorance, I could have lost my backpacker cred, had my hostel card ripped up and been stripped of my blister strips.

I know it makes me seem like a fool, but it's the same in hostels worldwide. So don't feel guilty, fellow bluffers.

If we were to talk about how scared we were on our journeys, or how ill-prepared, or how we really just spent the last week going to bars, ogling women and demonstrating the medicinal powers of cheap whiskey, well, the whole backpacking system would fall apart.

We'd lose the sense of competition. The lure of travel would cease. And, before long, we'd all be staying home.

Potential backpackers would instead be stuck going to neighbourhood bars, ogling women and drinking whiskey. And, let's face it, that's really

kind of pathetic.

So remember, the important thing is to share your stories and listen to your fellow travellers, speaking in a condescending tone one might use with a clever dog. "Oh, you went THERE. Good for YOU. That's really GREAT."

And, barring that, just remember the greatest travel quote ever, as penned by novelist Robert L. Coburg. I'd rehash it here, but you know what it is. Of course.



One unwritten rule of the backpackers' road: bluff. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The female Arnolds



MARTIN SCHOELLER/WWW.PONDPRESS.COM

The women

Online buzz for bodybuilders

NEW YORK. German-born, N.Y.C.-based photographer Martin Schoeller shot the ladies of the Olympia bodybuilding competitions years ago, for a book.

But this week, they went viral. "I wanted to get behind the bodybuilder's mask, behind the profession and bring out the person beneath everything," he says. **MWN**

Generating



"These were women who loved what they were doing, and they were willing to work at it."

Martin Schoeller
N.Y.C.-based photographer

Online

Why people forwarded it ...

NEW YORK. Hot aggregation sites like buzzfeed.com are on constant lookout for photo essays of the weird and wonderful.

These photos got thousands of hits there and on the Huffington Post for the same reason Schoeller started the project. "I thought to myself, 'Why would anyone possibly want to look like that?'" he says. **MWN**

Criticism

... and why people got mean

NEW YORK. Though Schoeller is grateful that the project is getting attention almost four years after publication, he was especially shocked by negative comments online.

"People were hateful to these women. I knew there would be controversy, but I didn't expect that. Our notions of what is beautiful are so narrow."

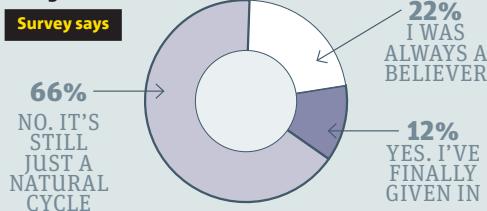
MWN



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Survey says



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@nadiaandedward:

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@LoraAnneHines:

#dalstrike beginning and #transitstrike ending would create such a magical time for the students of #halifax

@bmcleansports:

@hfxtransit can stay on strike as long as they want, i'm walking to

#Halifax from #Dartmouth and it feels great! #dontneednoferry

@SJMacLean:

Let's put Ken Wilson & Peter Kelly in a cage @ Metro Centre and let them fight it out. Sell tickets with \$ going to FeedNS. #TransitStrike

@k8ehowell:

What a beautiful day it is. Mild #halifax weather and just got a job offer for next year! #overtheremon #goodstarttotheday



Catch Sam Roberts at the Forum's Multipurpose Centre this Friday. HANDOUT

Canadian rocker Roberts gears up for local concert

Rock on. Musician Sam Roberts is back in Halifax this Friday night to promote his latest album, *Collider*.

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jenna Conter
halifax@metronews.ca

With a career spanning more than a decade, Juno-award win-

ning singer-songwriter Sam Roberts has witnessed the metamorphosis of Canadian rock music.

"Canadian musicians today have become (more) forward-thinking than ever before," he said by phone. "Innovative music is coming out of this country coast to coast and all parts in between."

Having travelled around the world, Roberts notes the shift in how the music world perceives Canadian music in reference to its previous stereotypes.

"The stereotypes exist more

now with the listeners than they do with industry," he said. "People are looking to Canada to see what's coming next and that's a huge shift from what it used to be."

Touring with his latest album *Collider*, Roberts is quick to point out that regardless of nationality, the objective is to focus on pushing the music to not only compete in the industry but also to avoid a creative plateau.

Roberts is back in Halifax on Friday night for a show at the Halifax Forum's Multipurpose Room at 8 p.m.

"It's maturity that changes the sound but you have to avoid getting too comfortable with one method," Roberts said. "If I had stayed in one mode I would have had a much less satisfying career and it would have been a lot shorter."

Though the early memories of his first ventures into music are "a little tougher to pinpoint because they're clouded by hormones," Roberts credits his current growth to the surroundings that inspire his music.

He said staying relevant is as much of a lifestyle choice as it is a musical one.

Ticket info

- Catch Sam Roberts at the Halifax Forum's Multipurpose Centre on Friday. Tickets are \$34.50 in advance through ticketpro.ca and \$39.50 at the door.

"You have to stay connected to the people around you, the city that you live in, and to live life with your eyes as wide open as possible so that you can absorb it and turn it into a song."

2

SCENE

In brief

Bieber's mom gets book deal

Justin Bieber's mom is going to get the chance to tell her version of the story of her son's rise to pop superstardom. Pattie Mallette has signed a deal with Revell Books to publish her memoir, *Nowhere But Up: The Story of Justin Bieber's Mom* is slated for release Sept. 18, and will include a foreword written by Bieber himself.

On the Web



Calling TV stupid makes you seem smart. Why does TV still invite disrespect?

JOAN JETT & THE BLACKHEARTS, JON HAMM, KRISTEN WIIG, MAYA RUDOLPH, JENNIFER WESTFELDT, AMY POEHLER, MEGAN SEYMOUR, SCOTT WESTFELDT, ANDREW RIEGER, JEFF GORDON, KAREN SIRKIN

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VVS FILMS | **GAP**





Drinking while pregnant? Meatball problems



Snooki GETTY IMAGES

Jersey Shore star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi has taken to the cover of Us Weekly to announce what everyone already knew: that she's pregnant and engaged.

"I have different priorities now," Polizzi says. "I don't care what anybody else thinks. As long as I know I'm ready and (fiancé

Jionni LaValle) is ready." The reality star admits that discovery of her pregnancy — right after New Year's — caused a moment of panic. Her first thought? "S—, I've been drinking," she says.

"I was worried. It was New Year's Eve and we were in Vegas, so I did go crazy." METRO

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Fashion magazine covers

Doin' the bump



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

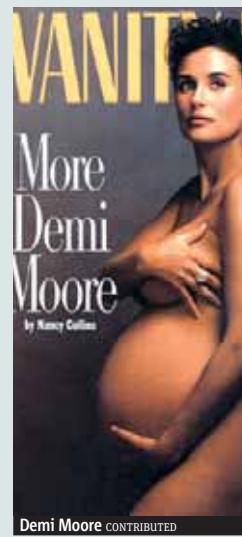
As a fellow pregnant lady, I'm all for Jessica Simpson posing on the cover of Elle magazine while hoisting around a fetus. Yay for the miracle of life and all that.

But why oh why did she have to do it naked? With the exception of Demi Moore's famous 1991 nude pregnancy photo for Vanity Fair, which set the bar for pregnancy photo shoots, why have any of these stars shown off their naked bellies on magazine covers?

It's as though these magazines — and starlets — need to flaunt the skin, just so you won't mistake them for being, well, fat.

Because a woman with actual curves on a fashion magazine? What a crazy concept!

But perhaps I'm wrong and am just being a prude. What do you think of the omnipresent naked pregnant celebrity cover trend? Do you want more naked bump in your life or do you prefer your pregnant celebrities lookin' good, but with maybe a shirt on?



Hewitt likes her boobs

Jennifer Love Hewitt has something in common with her fans when it comes to appreciating certain parts of her anatomy.

"It's horrible to say, but I like my boobs," the former Ghost Whisperer star tells Maxim magazine when asked what body part she is most proud of.

"They've always served me well. They're good." Well, maybe they haven't served her that well recently, the currently single Hewitt admits: "It might sound so stupid, but guys do not hit on me," she says. "I'm not really sure why."

METRO



Jennifer Love Hewitt GETTY IMAGES

Twitter



@ParisHilton

Don't judge me by my past, I don't live there anymore.



@nicolerichie

No grandma, I don't think you're ready for bikini season



@pattonoswalt

Just realized I know all the words to Whitney Houston's "How Will I Know?" Closest I'll ever come to being Jason Bourne.



@AlbertBrooks

If I were president I would allow poor people to drink 1% milk.

Ricci talks about adversity

Christina Ricci reveals that her teenage struggle with anorexia — and the unplanned revelation of it at the time — helped make her the person she is today. "Somebody actually found out about it and outed (me) while I was recovering," she tells Marie Claire magazine. "It was a horrifying thing to do to a 14-year-old trying to cope with a devastating illness. And, out of rage, I vowed that no one would ever be able to

out me for a secret again. So I was going to be completely honest in the rest of my life. I don't want to be hurt in that way again." As for the eating disorder itself, Ricci says the pressures of being an actress at that age had a lot to do with it. "I think it's just really awkward to go through puberty, and go through growing up and becoming a woman, when everybody is always kind of looking at you," she says. METRO

**SHOPPERS
DRUG MART**



It had been a rainy season in the city of lights, and inside the packed houses of Paris Fashion Week style continued to take front-line fashionistas by storm

KENYA HUNT AND RICHARD PECKETT
lifef@metronews.ca

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



Givenchy

Riccardo Tisci's show, always one of the most hotly anticipated on the Paris calendar, didn't disappoint with a collection inspired by the equestrian world and the '70s work of photographer Guy Bourdin.

Forget the sexless tweedy hunting set; Tisci's horsey theme was racy with an S&M sensibility.

Louis Vuitton

Marc Jacobs chose to summon up a bygone era of luxury travel for his Louis Vuitton show. The large, flamboyant hats were back, only slightly more refined. Same with the embroidered jackets, dresses and coats that the models wore layered over long skirts and wide, cropped pants. Unconventional, yes. But don't be surprised to see outsize layers trickling down to the high street come next season.



Yves Saint Laurent

Stefano Pilati bade farewell to the infamous Parisian fashion house after a 10-year tenure. There were no tears, just a collection of chic, predominantly black silhouettes that referenced the house's '70s and '80s eras. The macabre colour palette, cinched waists, sizeable lapels, wide shoulders and sharp tailoring marked what could be regarded as a somber day for Pilati.

However, the leather tunic tops, trousers and chainmail dresses redolent of strength and resilience were lightened in mood with the introduction of an embroidered calla lily.



Kenzo

It's no easy task to impress hundreds of soggy, cranky fashion editors who schlepped through the rain to a far-out part of Paris to see a 15-minute show.

But that's what Humberto Leon and Carol Lim did for their second collection as creative directors of Kenzo.

The collection was just as fun as the show experience itself, featuring clothes that struck the right balance between creative, original and wearable. There were tailored and knit separates in autumnal florals and grapes; silk jumpsuits in vaguely Asian silhouettes; skirt and trouser suits in a mash-up of graphic combos — the list goes on.



Fashion at your front door

You've got mail!

Founded in Germany, GLOSSYBOX is a monthly subscription beauty service that is making its Canadian debut. Each month, members receive five luxury cosmetics wrapped in the company's signature powder-pink box. At \$15 a month, GLOSSYBOX provides its clients with new beauty trends and products and a fashionable way to store their ever-growing beauty collection.

Find out more at glossybox.ca.

On the Web

Chanel, Alexander McQueen entice fantasy of ice and feathers at Paris ready-to-wear shows.



The new choice @ work.

LITE 92.9
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lite929.com





Create an accent wall with a bright, cheery pattern. iSTOCK

Freshen up for spring with some new wall designs and colours

DIY Ideas. Painting with templates is a fun and inexpensive way to update the look of your home

If you're looking for a fun DIY activity over the March break, painting with templates is a great place to start. Sweat Equity host Amy Matthews helps homeowners determine which home improvement projects will return the most bang for their buck and a fresh new wall design is sure to create a stylish and updated look.

Brainstorm

Painting with templates is an emerging decorating trend that offers a great deal of versatility. A border pattern can be applied to a kid's room, an accent wall

to a bedroom or a mural created in a living room. There are many types of stencils to choose from including plastic and cardboard varieties as well as removable wall stickers for a simpler option. Plastic stencils are washable and reusable after paint is applied whereas cardboard varieties eventually need to be replaced; keep this in mind if you plan on creating a larger border. The variety of fun designs available at craft and home decor stores allows for a truly personalized creation.

Getting started

Explore colour combinations on a sample area. Smooth walls will produce crisp designs so it is always a good idea to ensure that they are clean, dust-free and in good condition before applying the pattern. Any chips can be filled, primed and painted prior to stenciling. Flat paint

is recommended over semi-gloss so that the stencil pattern adheres more readily.

Painting advice

It is best to use a "drybrush" technique when working with stencils. This means using a paint brush that is relatively dry but still holds paint. If using a roller, roll it over the paint until mostly absorbed and then blot off any excess paint. Foam rollers work better than fluffy rollers. Always use light to medium pressure when painting over a stencil as excessive pressure may cause paint to bleed. A second coat can always be applied if desired. Attach stencils to the wall using painter's tape and a leveler. Once paint is dry to the touch, carefully remove the stencil.

TUNE IN TO SWEAT EQUITY AIRING WEEKDAYS AT 7 P.M. ET/4 P.M. PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA.

Gluten & Lactose Free Tandoor Chicken Breasts. Serve over rice

1 In sauté pan, heat 15 ml (1 tbsp) of oil over medium heat. When oil shimmers, reduce heat to low and add onion, garlic, salt, cardamom, cayenne, turmeric, cumin, mace, mustard, cinnamon, nutmeg and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, 10 mins. or until onion begins to turn translucent.

2 Transfer to blender. Add 2 cups coconut milk and lime juice. Blend 1 min. until smooth. Coat both sides of each chicken breast with spice mixture. Place chicken breasts flat on a plate, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

3 Use remaining oil lightly to coat a 25-by-20-cm (10-by-8-inch) baking or roasting pan. Place chicken breasts in an even layer in pan. Broil on rack in middle of the oven for 10 minutes, then turn chicken pieces over. Broil for 8 to 10 minutes longer. Remove from oven and serve immediately.

THE INTOLERANT GOURMET BY BARBARA KAFKA (ARTISAN, 2011) / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (FOR MORE VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOK.CA)

- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) canola oil
- 1 onion, finely diced
- 3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground cardamom
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cayenne pepper
- 1.5 ml (1/3 tsp) turmeric
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground cumin
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground mace
- 0.5 ml (1/8 tsp) each dry mustard, cinnamon, nutmeg, black pepper
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) coconut milk
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) lime juice
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (255 to 285 g/9 to 10 oz each)

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On feminism:

Jeanne: To me that whole idea of feminism, while it was such a godsend when we first caught wind of it or first started to really champion it in the '60s when I was growing up, now seems a little old-fashioned. Although, I'm not sure — what do you guys feel about that?"

Bekky: I think feminism is a very dangerous thing to define because the second you do, you start aggravating people who don't agree with your definition of it. (...) I don't know if it's a matter of feminism so much as recognizing the humanity of the person regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Jeanne: I remember when I was even a bit younger than my girls are now and I was going to university or college and reading Germaine Greer's works, Gloria Steinem. (...) Everybody was just reading these works about (feminism) and what it meant, and how we had to start thinking. Then all of a sudden it just became part of the way I saw the world and part of my psyche and I would hope part of my whole generation's psyche.

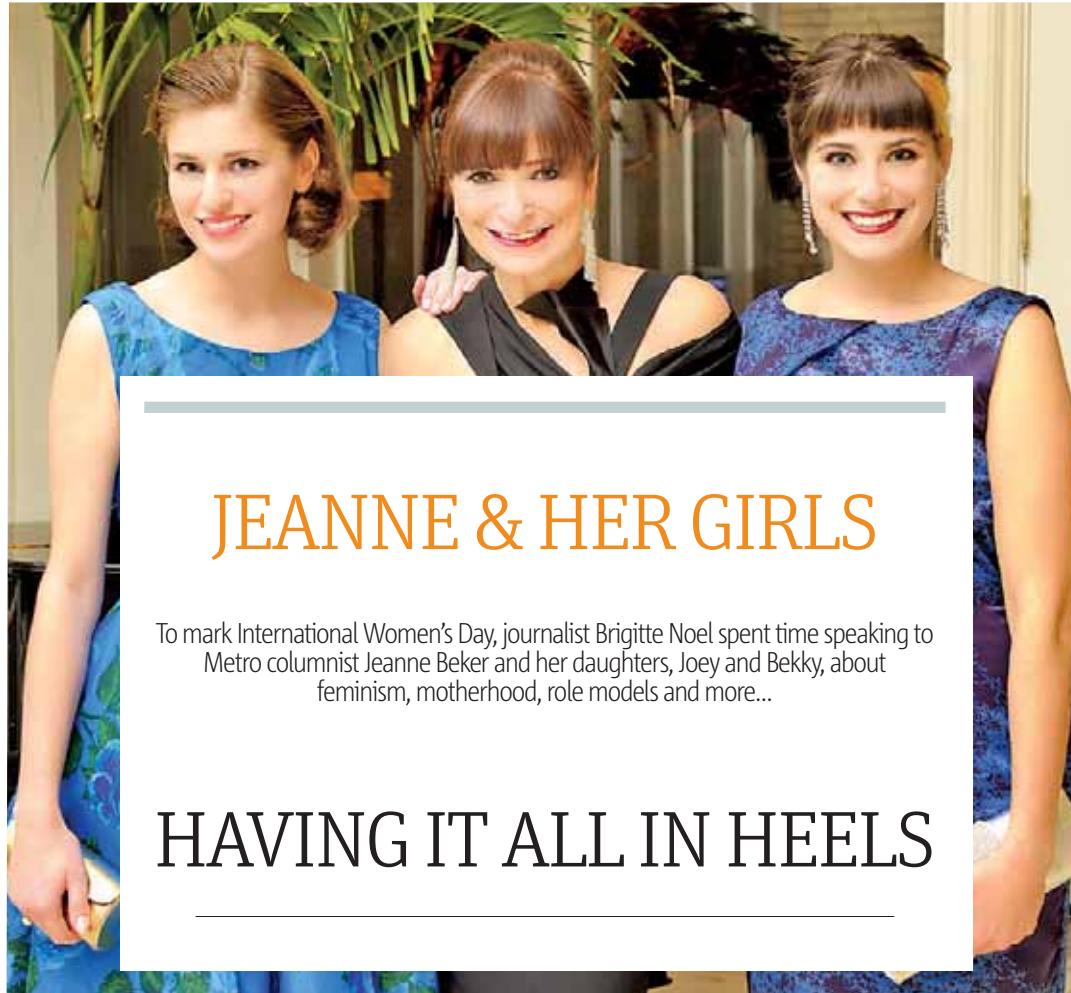
On women's rights:

Bekky: It's always necessary to fight for whatever rights you can. I think that we have to defend ourselves. When people aren't paying attention to what their rights are, their rights are taken away from them. We're very fortunate to be living in Canada where (human rights) are less of an issue than in other parts of the world, but I think that gay rights and queer rights and trans rights and rights of these even more marginalized groups than women are what come to mind as being more important to fight for nowadays.

Jeanne: And we have special rights too. When I think of how, when I decided to have a baby all those years ago, there was no such thing as a year of mat leave. Now it's thrilling that women have that option today — they certainly did not have it 20-odd years ago when I was having my kids.

Lessons from motherhood:

Jeanne: I've learned that it's important to be very open-minded. I was a pretty open-minded individual but you have to be even more open-minded. I feel I'm still learning not to be quick to judge, more tolerant. I think my kids just teach me to be a better person because they've taught me a lot about unconditional love and the necessity of encouraging people to blaze their



JEANNE & HER GIRLS

To mark International Women's Day, journalist Brigitte Noel spent time speaking to Metro columnist Jeanne Beker and her daughters, Joey and Bekky, about feminism, motherhood, role models and more...

HAVING IT ALL IN HEELS

own trails and not follow in footsteps. The number one question that I absolutely detest is when people ask if my daughters are following my footsteps. What do you think, I've raised a couple of followers, I've raised a couple of wimps? Without question, my daughters are

blazing their own trails as I feel that I did and would never want them to just be a second act in that way. They're an opening act for their own generation and hopefully one day maybe their own families.

On having it all:
Jeanne: Above all, I think what my daughters taught me is that love will find a way. It sounds really corny, but a lot of people would have looked at me and thought "you've got such a crazy busy career, how can you possibly take the

time to sit back and have a family?" I went back to work after like three weeks with each of them. (...) I had to protect what I had worked so hard for, and I didn't grow up at a time when I thought I could have it all. And I still think you can, in bits and pieces

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maybe and maybe not all at once, but I'm determined to kill myself trying. They really taught me that love will find a way and that if you really are passionate about something, if you really love something, you will find a way to make it work in your life. Just don't take no for an answer.

On the Kardashians:

Jeanne: Oooohh!

Joey: I don't know who they are?

Jeanne: We don't watch them at our house. We don't allow that.

Advice to women:

Bekky: Read books by women. (...) Figure out who you are and be proud of it. I think so many girls want to be someone else because it's easier and I think that denying the things you love is dangerous. Embrace what you need out of life.

Jeanne: I'd say go for it, be fearless, be tenacious, and to thine own self be true. Dream big, but work hard, and never give up.

Bekky: Always carry a pair of flats in your purse!

Jeanne: I never do!

Joey: I gave you those flats to carry and you put them in the basement!

Jeanne: The ones in my stocking? Were those from you?

Joey: Yes!!

Jeanne: I thought they were from Santa. I was looking for them, I'll take them to Paris.



SPORTS

MATTHEW WUEST
Metro in Halifax

The Halifax Mooseheads had obviously had enough of slow starts.

After three straight games of letting opponents get an early jump on them and falling into 2-0 holes, the Mooseheads turned the tables on Wednesday at the Metro Centre, scoring three times in the opening six minutes, 12 seconds, en route to a 7-0 thumping of the Bathurst Titan.

The Mooseheads took a 4-0 lead into the first intermission and padded it with two more goals before the second period was seven minutes old.

"We didn't want to continue and dig ourselves in a hole every game," said Nathan MacKinnon, who was the first star with two goals and two assists. "We knew we'd have good support from the fans and we wanted to give them what they came here for, to get a good start and get a win."

The show of dominance was that much more impressive considering the Mooseheads were hit by the flu before puck drop, with three players scratched and a fourth — Matthew Boureau — leaving the game after assisting on the game's opening goal by Luca Ci-

ampini.

Despite playing with just 10 forwards for most of the night, MacKinnon, Brent Andrews (two goals, one assist) and second star Martin Frk (goal, assist) led the offensive charge.

"It's hard for the forwards because when you only play with three lines, it's (tiring)," Frk said. "But we had other guys (step up) and we played very well today."

Rookie goalie Zach Fucale was named third star, earning his 30th win and second shutout of the season with 35 saves.

Things were so bad for the Titan early on that when Frk made it 6-0 at 6:58 of the second, the Mooseheads were just two goals away from the Titan's meagre shot total of eight.

"It was sloppy at times but Fooks (Fucale) bailed us out like he's done pretty much every other game," MacKinnon said. "Hats off to Fooks and hats off to us for playing hard with some guys sick and some key assets missing."

Post-season positioning

With Wednesday's win, the Mooseheads improved to 37-20-6 and moved into sole possession of sixth overall in the QMJHL.

- If the playoffs started Thursday, they'd face the Baie-Comeau Drakkar in the first round.
- The Mooseheads visit the Moncton Wildcats on Thursday at 7 p.m.



Nathan MacKinnon, left, and Andrew Ryan celebrate a third-period goal against the Bathurst Titan on Thursday night.
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Quoted

"I know at my age, I don't have too much time left so I enjoy every minute that I can be a professional soccer player. Every game is a special game for me and I take it day by day and enjoy the game, giving a 100 per cent and hopefully that's good enough."

Chivas USA veteran defender Ante Jazic, a 36-year-old defender, to MLSsoccer.com. Jazic is embarking on his seventh Major League Soccer season.

AUS awards. Huskies goalie nets all-star nod after outstanding freshman season



Anthony Peters

SAINT MARY'S ATHLETICS/SUBMITTED

Anthony Peters' tremendous rookie season with the Saint Mary's Huskies men's hockey team was recognized by Atlantic University Sport on Wednesday.

The freshman goaltender from Blyth, Ont., was named a first-team AUS all-star and earned a place on the all-rookie squad. He posted a 10-3-2 record with a 2.53 goals-against average and a .915 save percentage.

Huskies fourth-year forward Colby Pridham made the second team, as did Tigers fifth-year blue-liner David MacDonald.

The AUS final began on

AUS MVP

Atlantic University Sport scoring champion Andrew Clark of the Acadia Axemen was named conference MVP on Wednesday.

- Clark, a third-year forward, had 15 goals and 24 assists for 39 points in 28 games.

Wednesday, with the UNB Varsity Reds beating the Moncton Aigles Bleus 8-3 to grab a 1-0 lead in the best-of-five series. METRO

QMJHL

Sea Dogs hold onto national No. 1 seed

The QMJHL representatives in the Canadian Hockey League's top-10 ranking didn't move around much this week.

The Saint John Sea Dogs (47-14-2) held down their No. 1 ranking, while the Shawinigan Cataractes (42-14-7) stayed at No. 4. The Quebec Remparts (41-15-7) moved up one spot to No. 8.

The Victoriaville Tigres (40-18-5) were among three teams earning honourable mentions.

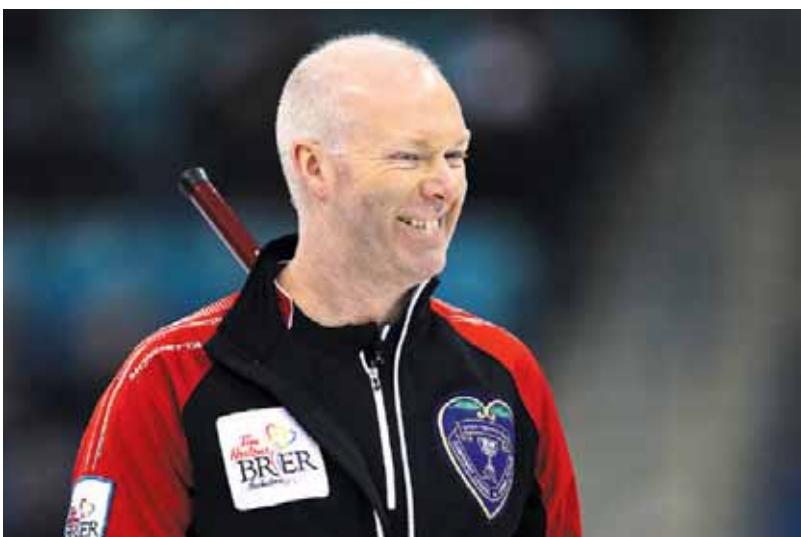
METRO

CIS

All-Canadian nods for pair from St. FX

Cole Harbour's Suzanne Fenerty and Bedford's Alex Normore, both of the St. Francis Xavier X-Women, were named Canadian Interuniversity Sport women's hockey first-team all-Canadians on Wednesday.

Fenerty, a fifth-year blue-liner, cracked the first team for the second straight season, while Normore, a sophomore forward, was on the second team last season and won CIS rookie of the year. National team legend Hayley Wickenheiser of the Calgary Dinos was named to the second team. METRO



Ontario skip Glenn Howard is heading to the playoffs at the Tim Hortons Brier in Saskatoon.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Howard in familiar position at Brier

Curling. Rink skipped by Howard has made the final five the last six years and won the Canadian title in 2007

Glenn Howard has made the playoffs at the Canadian men's curling championships for the 13th time in his 14 appearances.

But this road to the final four at the Tim Hortons Brier felt like the hardest one yet for the Ontario skip.

Five extra-end games and ailing Craig Savill at lead has made the 2012 Brier feel like a marathon for Howard, even though his was the first team to nail down a playoff berth.

"This is the longest, hardest grind that we've ever done at a Brier," Howard said Wednesday.

Manning's legacy

Peyton Manning started every meaningful game for 13 seasons in Indianapolis — 227 in a row, including the playoffs — and took the Colts from perennial also-ran to one of the NFL's model franchises and the 2007 Super Bowl title.

- In the two decades predating his arrival, the Colts won 116 games, one division title and made the playoffs three times.

- With Manning taking snaps, the Colts have won 150 games, eight division titles, two AFC championships and the franchise's first league championship since moving from Baltimore in 1984.

Drop off

3

After winning five of their first six, the Northwest Territories/Yukon have lost three in a row, including skip Jamie Koe's 11-3 defeat at the hands of his brother Kevin of Alberta on Wednesday morning.

Wednesday. "Five extra-end games, I don't care if you win or lose, those are tough."

"Craig, you've got to give him credit. He's not feeling very well and he's played awesome since having two games off. We've had to work for every single win that we've gotten this week."

A 10-5 win over Prince Edward Island on Wednesday was the easiest of the tournament so far for the Howard team. Of their five extra-end games, four were wins.

At 8-1, Ontario also secured a top-two finish when the preliminary round concludes Thursday.

Only Alberta's Kevin Koe at 7-2 could mathematically catch Ontario at the top of the standings. Ontario and Alberta meet in the final round-robin draw Thursday.

The top four teams advance to the Page playoff. Ties for fourth are solved by tie-breaker games.

Ontario will play in Friday's Page playoff between the top two seeds. The winner advances directly to Sunday's final.

After an 11-3 loss to Northern Ontario Wednesday evening, Nova Scotia's Jamie Murphy sat tied for sixth place with B.C.'s Jim Cotter and New Brunswick's Terry Odishaw at 4-5 heading into Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL. Manning and Colts say their final goodbyes

Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts ended their successful partnership with a tearful goodbye Wednesday, when team owner Jim Irsay released the star quarterback rather than pay a whopping \$28-million bonus while there are lingering questions about his health.

"We all know that nothing lasts forever," Manning said. "Times change, circumstances change, and that's the reality of playing in the NFL."

The 35-year-old Manning will become a free agent, and is expected to generate interest from a half-dozen or so NFL clubs, provided he's healthy.



Peyton Manning.

AI MAST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manning is coming off a series of operations to his neck.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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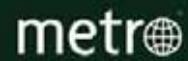
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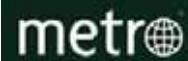
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Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous



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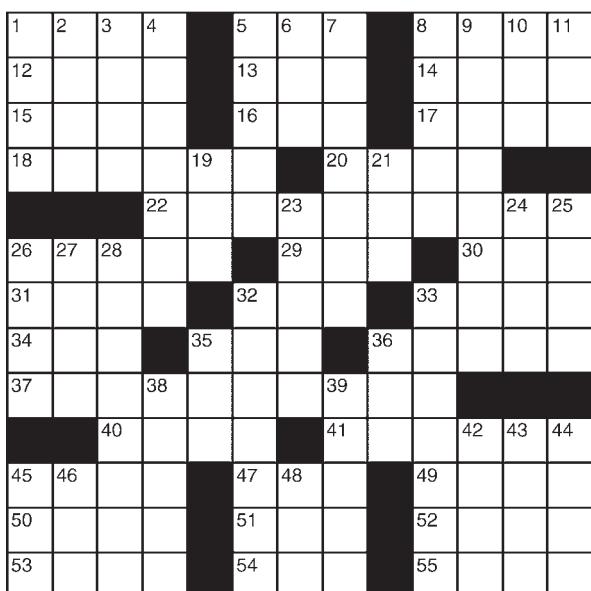
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Crossword

Across
1 Paddock papa
5 Rotating part
8 Lateen-rigged boat
12 Mideastern gulf
13 "The Greatest"
14 Architect Saarinen
15 Paper quantity
16 Under the weather
17 George Herman Ruth
18 Damage
20 Praise highly
22 Conclusive proof
26 Grip
29 Trigger's rider
30 Id counterpart
31 See 36-Across
32 Victory
33 Auction
34 — out a living
35 Lubricate
36 With 31-Across,
1957 Pat Boone hit
37 Forefront of activity
40 From square one
41 Etta James classic
45 "The Forsyte —"
47 \$ dispenser
49 Perjurer
50 Paradise
51 Unruly group
52 Advan-tage
53 "The Da Vinci —"
54 "Mayday!"
55 Dilbert's work-place
Down
1 Ganges garment
2 Footnote word
3 Harvest



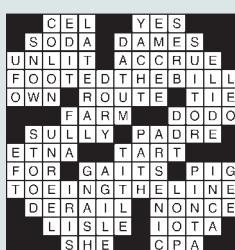
4 As a group
5 Egypt's capital
6 The whole enchilada
7 Top prize on many recent game shows
8 Fix, as software
9 Hats
10 Sphere
11 Misery
19 Mischievous tyke
21 Whatever number
23 Baleen whale's fodder
24 Wrinkly citrus
25 Christmas

refrain
26 Staff leader?
27 Norse trickster god
28 Did a mean job?
32 Some Native American homes
33 Relieved
35 Individual
36 Pismire
38 Crazy
39 Poetic feet
42 Staffer
43 Droops
44 "Star —"
45 Moment
46 Commotion

48 Excessively

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer



Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20.
Resist the urge to change methods for no good reason. New ways are not always better ways.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21.
Moderation is a must today. If you fly too high, for whatever reason, the full moon will bring you back to earth with a bump.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20.
Someone in a position of authority will make you an offer you find hard to refuse.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22.
If you let your imagination get the better of you, chances are you will overreact to something that isn't worth getting worked up about.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22.
Both the sun and moon highlight the more materialistic areas of your chart at the moment.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.
Because today's full moon takes place in your birth sign, you may find it hard keeping your feelings under wraps. That's not bad.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22.
Whether or not you enjoy what you have to do today depends entirely on your attitude.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.
If you want to show that you're not the secretive, suspicious textbook Scorpio type now is the time.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21.
Try not to come on too strong today, especially at work.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20.
You're in a positive frame of mind and that's good, but someone will try to burst your bubble over the next 24 hours.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb. 18.
If you get involved in a war of words today your rivals may start thinking you have something to hide, and it could be that you do!

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20.
Don't give up on a relationship just because it is going through a rough patch. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer



Today

12° / -3°
Partly cloudy

Friday

8° / -6°
Rain
90%

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Send a kiss

Laughing. He who has the last laugh laughs hardest and longest! =) From Out Loud

Sweet Art. It took everything I had to give you a cupcake on Valentine's Day, and despite its heart box I felt that you didn't completely understand... Please open your eyes and look my way - I want to bake the next batch together with you. Boy Over Flour.

Yummi. I hope that one day you will see this message that I left you just so you know how I feel. I want to tell you everyday but I can never find the courage. I think you're amazing, in every way. If there's one thing I know for sure it's how you make me feel. Me

Sebastian. here i am<3 you just pucker up your lips like dis:P From fern

The Truth. The truth is love, and no matter how much it's tough sometimes because love is a process of evolving and becoming more holy, we will all be ok. Just relax and let love grow. Monumental is the expression, in honesty, which can only create a happier, more honest truth to your life. Trust in your deeper way of feeling, and let it shine!



Win!



You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

Caption Contest

"What effect shall we cause today?"

Beth

RACHEL DENNY CLOW, CORPUS CHRISTI CALLER-TIMERS / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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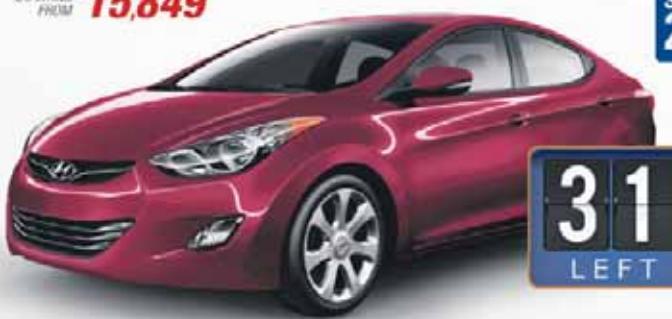


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